

## Abstract

The Bachelor thesis „Comparison of the Scottish National Party and Plaid Cymru in 1966-1979“ is concerned with the regionalist parties of Scotland and Wales which achieved a substantial rise in popular support in the late 1960s and in the 1970s. Their electoral success led the Labour government to pass the acts which were supposed to introduce devolution to both regions but failed to achieve a sufficient support in the referenda. The thesis examines which of the two parties was more successful in enforcing its core policy and why. The first chapter classifies SNP and *Plaid Cymru*, determines their priorities and describes their origin and development. The second chapter analyses the electoral performance of SNP and *Plaid Cymru*, their ideological transformation, campaigns, electoral base and their attitude to the devolution bills and to the subsequent referenda. The last chapter determines that the SNP was the more successful party because it achieved better results in elections and the proposed Scottish Assembly was about to possess greater powers than the Welsh Assembly. This had two main reasons. First, the language division of Wales prevented *Plaid Cymru* from securing support throughout the whole region and made it rely on the welsh-speaking minority of the north-west. Second, *Plaid Cymru*’s promotion of economically thriving devolved Wales lacked a solid backing. By contrast, the SNP did not have to cope with language complications and could take advantage of the discovery of oil in the North Sea.